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**Security**

**CONTROL OF ANIMALS AND PETS**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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This instruction establishes procedures for the control of pets and other animals on McChord AFB and applies to all personnel assigned or visiting McChord AFB. Personnel who violate the specific prohibitions and requirements of this instruction may be prosecuted under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) or barred from the installation.

**SUMMARY OF REVISIONS**

**This document is substantially revised and must be completely reviewed.**

**1. Policy.**

1.1. Residents of base housing on McChord Air Force Base are permitted to keep only authorized pets on the base. Unauthorized pets may not be brought onto, or kept on, the base by residents or visitors without the prior written approval of the 62d Mission Support Group Commander (62 MSG/CC) with recommendation of the Base Veterinarian. Residents of base housing are permitted a maximum of two (2) four-legged pets. Pets, with the exception of aquarium fish, may not be kept in unaccompanied enlisted personnel housing (dormitories) or work areas.

1.2. Owners and keepers of pets must prevent their pets from roaming unrestricted on base. Only animals involved with a bite report, animal abuse, neglect, or found running loose on McChord will be brought to the Stray Animal Facility at Fort Lewis in accordance with AR 40-905, Veterinarian Health Services.

1.3. Any person capturing a stray animal on base must immediately contact the Veterinary Clinic at 982-3951 during normal duty hours, or Security Forces at 982-5624 after duty hours. If the animal cannot be captured, contact Security Forces to have the animal captured. Personnel must assume the "stray" animal has simply escaped from the control of the owner and therefore must report it to the

appropriate authorities. Persons intentionally keeping an animal from its rightful owner (knowingly or unknowingly) may be investigated for theft of personal property.

1.4. Pets will remain on a leash at all times when outside of the fenced area of their premises except as noted in paragraph 1.4.2. Chains or similar devices used to secure pets must be of a length that will not allow the pet to have access to common areas including sidewalks. Owners and keepers of pets who maintain their pets in a fenced area must ensure the pet cannot jump over or dig under the fence.

1.4.1. Persons will keep pets on leash in their close proximity (within 3 feet) and under strict control when other persons or animals are in their immediate area (approximately 15 feet). Persons must take these precautions to ensure the safety of others persons and animals around them.

1.4.2. Persons wishing to exercise/train their pet's off-leash must use the grassy area between 14th Street and Lincoln Blvd, east of Outter Drive or any grassy area off Perimeter Road east of the flight line with exception of Morey Pond area. **EXCEPTION:** Residents of Command Circle may exercise/train their pets off leash in the area of Command Circle. Owners must still maintain sight of their pets and have positive verbal control at all times.

1.4.3. Horses will be controlled by a lead or reigns at all times when not in a corral, stable or trailer. Refer to paragraph 1.10. for further information concerning control of horses on base.

1.5. Owners and keepers of pets must control pet noises that annoy or offend neighbors. Two or more documented noise complaints against a pet may result in the pet's permanent removal from base. Base residents should direct complaints to the Housing Office.

1.6. Pet owners will clean up their pet's droppings in all areas.

1.7. Dangerous or trained attack dogs will not be kept on base without the written permission of the 62 MSG/CC.

1.8. Any animal that bites a human being or another animal without provocation will be permanently removed from the base on the first offense.

1.9. An owner or keeper of a pet will not confine a pet in a vehicle under circumstances that could reasonably cause environmental stress to the pet. If Security Forces discover a pet in distress, the Security Forces will attempt to locate the pet's owner or keeper of the pet to alleviate the pet's distress. If the owner or keeper cannot be located and the pet's distress appears to be severe, the Security Forces may enter the vehicle using the security forces slim Jim or by breaking the window. The animal will be transported to the Stray Animal Facility at the owners' expense.

1.10. Horses are not allowed within any portion of the base housing area, golf course or flight line areas. Horse riders must use only those areas designated for riding by the McChord AFB Horse Club(s).

1.10.1. Owners and keepers of horses stabled at the Horse Club(s) or horses brought on base to ride on designated riding paths that are not members of the Horse Club(s) must comply with Washington State requirements for importation of horses into the state, and the constitution and by-laws of the Horse Club(s) regarding the health and condition of the horse. The Horse Club(s) president will provide the base veterinarian a list of all horses and their vaccination and worming status on a semiannual basis.

1.10.1.1. Owners and keepers that bring their horses on base must possess an official health certificate stating the horse is free of clinical symptoms of infectious or communicable dis-

eases for entry on base.

1.10.1.2. Owners and keepers of horses over 6 months of age must have a record indicating their horse tested negative for equine infectious anemia (Coggins test) prior to bringing the horse on base.

1.11. Personnel using the Holiday Park facilities will have a current copy of their pet's Rabies Vaccination Certificate to be presented to the Holiday Park Manager upon request. Personnel using the Holiday Park facilities will maintain control of their pets to preclude them from becoming a public nuisance or hazard to others in the park area. Pet owners using Holiday Park facilities must comply with the provisions of this instruction. Failure to comply with this instruction may result in the pet owner's removal from Holiday Park.

1.12. No commercial breeding of animals is allowed on the base.

1.13. If an animal is identified by the Base Veterinary Clinic as a health hazard to the community, the owner will be required to remove the animal from the base until the veterinarian certifies that the animal is healthy.

1.14. A pet owner or keeper may be removed from government quarters for repeated failure to comply with the provisions of this instruction.

## 2. Responsibility.

2.1. The 62d Security Forces Squadron Commander (62 SFS/CC) will:

2.1.1. Enforce the provisions of this instruction. Security Forces will transfer captured animals to the Stray Animal Facility. Personnel who capture stray animals on McChord AFB will be encouraged to transport the captured animals to the Stray Animal Facility during normal duty hours. If McChord AFB personnel cannot capture the animal, Security Forces will provide reasonable assistance in capturing the animal.

2.1.2. Investigate all animal bites reported to Security Forces. All unprovoked bite incidents involving non-family members will be recorded on AF Form 3545, **Incident Report**. All bite incidents will be recorded on AF Form 53, Security Forces Desk Blotter. The owner or keeper of the pet inflicting the bite will be required to transport the pet to the Base Veterinary Clinic for a pre-quarantine examination, no later than the next workday following the incident. A post quarantine examination will be completed 10 days post incident by Base Veterinary Clinic personnel.

2.1.3. Notify the Base Veterinary Clinic of an animal that has been permanently removed from the base.

2.2. The Chief, McChord Veterinary Services, PNWDVC, U.S. Army Veterinary Corps (62 SVS/SVRV) will:

2.2.1. Maintain records of all DD Form 2208, **Rabies Vaccination Certificate**, and rabies tags issued.

2.2.2. Observe pets quarantined at the home of the owner or keeper of the pet.

2.2.3. Forward a current record of all rabies tags issued at McChord AFB within 7 calendar days of issuance to the 62d Security Forces Control Center (SFCC).

2.3. The 62d Medical Group Commander (62 MDG/CC) will:

2.3.1. Notify the Law Enforcement Desk of all incidents involving pets or stray animals resulting in medical treatment of an individual.

2.3.2. Assist in the investigation of animal bite incidents when necessary.

### **3. Pet Owners Responsibilities.**

3.1. Pet owners must register their pets with the Base Veterinary Clinic within 10 calendar days of occupancy of government quarters or when a housing occupant acquires a new pet.

3.2. All pets will be supplied with adequate food and water on a daily basis.

3.3. All pets will be supplied with adequate shelter from cold, rain, snow, and excessive heat. Adequate shelter will be defined as a doghouse or shed or other structure, which enables the pet to escape uncomfortable weather conditions of its own accord.

3.4. Maintain cleanliness of the grounds where pets are kept. Pets will be considered a nuisance for such acts as running loose, chasing persons or vehicles, incessant barking, or littering grounds for which others have maintenance responsibilities. Pets may be banished from base upon initiation of the second documented complaint, unless the animal is involved in an unprovoked biting incident.

3.5. All pets must have current vaccines to include rabies and distemper. Upon proving proper immunization, the pet owner will be issued a DD Form 2208 and a McChord AFB rabies tag. This act will constitute registration of the pet. Registration renewal must be completed prior to the expiration date of the current rabies immunization. All pets must be free of zoonotic diseases. Contact the Base Veterinary Clinic for proper testing of animals.

3.6. If the animal is involved in an incident resulting in medical treatment of an individual, the veterinarian or physician, with the assistance of the Security Forces, will immediately investigate the circumstances. In bite cases, immediate steps will be taken to keep the animal in absolute confinement for a period specified by the base veterinarian. If symptoms of disease appear during the quarantine period, the veterinarian will determine the necessary actions to be taken. The following quarantine measures will normally be followed by Base Veterinary Clinic. Exceptions to the following policies are at the discretion of the Chief, Veterinary Services.

3.6.1. Dogs and cats residing on base with a current rabies vaccination will normally be permitted home quarantine. Owners will be required to bring the animal to Base Veterinary Clinic, Building 769, for initial examination at the start of the quarantine period. A home quarantine agreement will be completed by Base Veterinary Clinic and signed by the animal's owner. At the completion of the 10-day quarantine, the pet owner will return with the animal for the end-of-quarantine examination. The owner of the animal will be responsible for complete control of the animal as directed by the Chief, Veterinary Services.

3.6.2. Quarantine location for pets involved in a bite incident will be determined by the Base Veterinary Clinic personnel. Home quarantine or formal quarantine will be based upon owner's cooperation and the circumstances surrounding the incident. All expenses resulting from a non-home quarantine are the responsibility of the owner.

3.6.3. Dogs and cats without current rabies vaccinations owned by a McChord AFB resident will be referred to the base veterinarian. If the owner is unknown, the animal will be transported to the Stray Animal Facility and quarantined.

3.6.4. Animals residing on base, not normally vaccinated for rabies, will be quarantined and/or submitted for rabies testing at the discretion of the Chief, Veterinary Services.

3.7. The 62 MSG/CC will make the determination if a pet needs to be permanently removed from the base. The 62 SFS/CC will coordinate with the base veterinarian and notify the owner or keeper of the pet by a letter signed by the 62 MSG/CC. Coordinate this letter through the owner or keeper's unit commander. The notification will direct the owner or keeper of the pet to remove the pet from the base within 24 hours after receipt of the letter unless the Base Veterinary Clinic is quarantining the pet. The owner or the keeper of the pet will acknowledge receipt of the letter, and return the letter to the 62 SFS/CC. The notification requirement is waived if Security Forces cannot reasonably determine the owner or keeper of the pet. In that case, Security Forces will remove the pet from the base and transport to the Stray Animal Facility.

3.8. If the owner or keeper of the pet disagrees with the factual determination that the pet should be removed from the base, the owner or keeper of the pet may challenge that finding by submitting a written appeal through the owner or keeper's unit commander, the 62 SFS/CC to the 62 MSG/CC. No further appeal is authorized under this instruction.

3.9. Notify the Base Veterinary Clinic when the pet has been or will be permanently removed from the base.

#### **4. Recovery of Impounded Pets.**

4.1. The 62 SFS will not be responsible for the recovery of animals after they have been picked up for impoundment at the Stray Animal Facility. Numbered Air Force (NAF) Employee's mans the Stray Animal Facility during normal duty hours. Owners of impounded pets may inquire by calling the Stray Animal Facility 0900 - 1500 normal duty days. The Stray Animal Facility is closed most federal holidays and training days.

4.2. The Stray Animal Facility deals with unclaimed animals in the following manner:

4.2.1. Impounded animals are held for a minimum of 3 working days before they are put up for adoption.

4.2.2. After 3 duty days, impounded animals may be destroyed at the discretion of Stray Animal Facility.

4.3. Non-duty Hours.

4.3.1. Fort Lewis military police man the Stray Animal Facility during non-duty hours. If the Fort Lewis military police cannot meet the McChord security forces to drop off a stray, Security Forces Control Center (SFCC) maintains a key to the Stray Animal Facility. A patrol will pick up the key from the SFCC and transport the animal to the Stray Animal Facility.

ROBERT R. ALLARDICE, Colonel, USAF  
Commander, 62d Airlift Wing

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****Terms***

**Authorized Pets**—Domestic four-legged animal (dogs, cats), small caged animals such as birds, hamsters, gerbils or rabbits, and aquarium fish.

**Dangerous dog**—Any dog that has either inflicted injury on a human being without provocation, has killed a domestic animal without provocation, or has previously aggressively bit, attacked, or endangered the safety of humans or domestic animals.

**Unauthorized pets**—Any naturally wild or barnyard animal, including, but not limited to, wild dogs or cats, wolf hybrids, ferrets, weasels, ducks, chickens and naturally wild birds. Exotic pets such as iguanas, snakes and large birds.

**Zoonotic Diseases**—Diseases which are transferable from animal to human. Contact the base veterinarian for further information.